

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-20, 25-27 and 30-32 are pending in the present application. Claims 12, 13, 27, 30 and 32 are amended and Claims 21-23, 28, 29 and 33-35 are canceled without disclaimer or prejudice by the present amendment.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 29 and 34 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,673,065 to DeLeeuw; Claims 21-23, 28, 33 and 35 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Japanese Patent No. 06-006733 to Sakamoto in view of DeLeeuw; and Claims 1-20, 25-27 and 30-32 were allowed.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter. Accordingly, Claims 21-23, 28, 29 and 33-35 are canceled to render moot the rejections in the outstanding Office Action and to place this application in condition for allowance.

Consequently, in light of the above discussion and in view of the present amendment, the present application is believed to be in condition for allowance and an early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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